

DIARY DETAILS

Sunday 18th February

9:45am Morning Prayer at *St Botolph's*
11:00am Communion Service at *St Peter's*
4:30pm Joint Evening Service at *Castle*

Tuesday 20th February

7:45/8pm Life Explored at the *Vicarage*

Wednesday 21st February

10:30am Communion Service at *St Peter's*

Thursday 23rd February

8:00pm NGM* Community Group at *4 Br. Mews*

Saturday 24th February

10:00am "Equip" Conference in *Muswell Hill*

Sunday 25th February

9:45am Communion Service at *St Botolph's*
11:00am Morning Service at *St Peter's*
4:30pm Cantus Firmus Service at *Castle*

The focus of each Community Group is as follows:

- * *FFM: Faithful Friends Ministries (Tuesday lunchtimes)*
- * *JRM: Jericho Road Ministries (Tuesday evenings)*
- * *NGM: Next Generation Ministries (Thursday evenings)*

CONTACT DETAILS

The Town Centre Parish Office

01206 572529 & towncentreparrishoffice@gmail.com

Associate Minister: **Aella Gage** (07796 475130)

Churchwarden: **Dan Watts** (866630)

Churchwarden: **Wendy Whitfield** (790431)

PCC Secretary: *position currently vacant*

PCC Treasurer: **Richard Lawn** (540510)

Safeguarding Rep: **Morvern Cox** (07501 341000)

Vicar: **Mark Wallace** (572641 or 07772 615378)

Vicar's PA: **Bernice Watts** (572529)



For more information about St Peter's,
please refer to www.stpeterscolchester.org
or www.twitter.com/StPeters_CO11DZ
or www.facebook.com/stpeterscolchester

CHURCH NOTICES

Our Lent Book for 2018 is "Spiritual Healthcheck" and if you don't already have a copy, please take one today (yes, they are free!) - and then join us in setting aside a little time through Lent, as we read through these "16 steps to a thriving Christian life".

Training Opportunity #1 - EQUIP - for all those involved or interested in children's and youth ministry is this Saturday (24th Feb) at St James' in Muswell Hill. All costs for registered SPK leaders and helpers will be covered by the church. If you would like a lift, please speak to Mark as soon as possible.

Training Opportunity #2 - Teaching Proverbs - is being run by the Proclamation Trust on Saturday 3rd March in Fordham. Please book directly via the ProcTrust website, under Conferences.

The Cantus Firmus Service next Sunday (25th) will be at Castle Methodist Church, at 4:30pm. Please see the noticeboard for more information about this service and another event coming up in May.

The next set of rotas (for March-June) will be prepared soon. If you haven't already let Bernice know your 'unavailability', please do so as soon as possible. If you are not yet on any rotas but would like to help, please speak to Bernice. Thank you.

The Electoral Roll is due to be updated before the APCM in March. If you would like to apply to have your name added to the Electoral Roll of St Peter's, please speak to Clare Reid (the PCC's Electoral Roll Officer) before the end of February.

The Annual Church Meetings for 2018 will be held on Wednesday 21st March (7:45 for 8pm).

The loop system in church is now working again. If you need any assistance, or if you experience any problems with volume levels, please let a member of the Welcome Team or a Churchwarden know as soon as possible.

Items for inclusion in the Notices or Diary should be emailed to the Town Centre Parish Office or posted to the Town Centre Vicarage to arrive by 12 noon on the preceding Tuesday.

Copyright information.

Readings. Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version Anglicised (ESVUK) Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. **Prayers.** Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council (2000). **Hymns.** All hymn words reproduced under CCL Licence No. 36619.

A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!

Our service this morning is led by Rev Mark Wallace. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Welcoming Team or contact any of the people in the "Contact details" section at the back of this leaflet. Please note that we do not take a collection during the service: if you would like to give, please use the box towards the back of church.

If you have younger children with you today, then please feel free to bring them to SPK (St Peter's Kids, for all those up to and including Year 6) in the Church Hall during the first hymn. If it's your first visit, we will ask you to complete a short Registration Form, but you are then welcome to leave your children in their groups and return to join us in the service. The children will be returned to church shortly after the end of the service.

Thank you for joining us today.

Communion Service

Sunday 18th February 2018

The First Sunday of Lent

"O LORD OUR GOD, HOW MAJESTIC"

O Lord our God, how majestic is Your name,
the earth is filled with Your glory.
O Lord our God, You are robed in majesty.
You've set Your glory above the heavens.

*We will magnify, we will magnify
the Lord enthroned in Zion.*

*We will magnify, we will magnify,
the Lord enthroned in Zion.*

[SPK & Creche leave for their groups]

O Lord our God, You have established a throne;
You reign in righteousness and splendour.
O Lord our God, the skies are ringing
with Your praise,
soon those on earth will come to worship.
We will magnify, we will magnify...

O Lord our God, the world was made
at Your command;
in You all things now hold together.
Now to Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb,
be praise and glory and power forever.
We will magnify, we will magnify...

Phil Lawson Johnston © 1982, Thankyou Music

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE COMMANDMENTS

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not murder."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not commit adultery."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not steal."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

"You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbour's."

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

SPIRITUAL HEALTHCHECK

1. Spiritually healthy?
2. Love

BIBLE READING: Acts 17 v 24-31

page 927-927; read by Quinlan Terry

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

"AS THE DEER"

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
And the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength...

You're my Friend and You are my Brother,
Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything.

You alone are my strength...

Martin Nystrom © 1983, Restoration Music Ltd

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

led by Duncan Breckels

These responses may be used during the prayers
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

"ALL MY DAYS, I WILL SING THIS SONG"

All my days, I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
for in my helplessness You heard my cry,
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails:
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
of death defeated, and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life;
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion,
And You reign, You reign over all.*

I long to be where the praise is never-ending,
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
where countless worshippers will share one song
and cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb!

Beautiful Saviour...

Stuart Townend, © 1998, Thankyou Music

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
as we gather at the Lord's table
we must recall the promises and warnings
given to us in the Scriptures.
Let us therefore examine ourselves
and repent of our sins.
Let us give thanks to God for his redemption
of the world through his Son Jesus Christ,
and as we remember Christ's death for us,
and receive this pledge of his love,
let us resolve to serve him
in holiness and righteousness
all the days of our life.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and
only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not
perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full
acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save
sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anybody sins, we have an advocate with the
Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; he is the
propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2:1-2*

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as
to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean
by his body
and our souls washed
through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYERS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we thank you that in your tender mercy
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
he made there a full atonement
for the sins of the whole world,
offering once for all his one sacrifice of himself;
He instituted,
and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

In the same night that he was betrayed,
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

**“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”**

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying,

**“Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.” Amen.**

*Authorized words of distribution are used, after which
the communicant replies:*

Amen.

*While you wait to be ushered forward to receive the
bread and the wine, please join in with singing “When I
survey” and “Behold the Lamb” (the words are at the
back of this service-sheet).*

THE LORD’S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE NOTICES

“LORD OF THE CHURCH”

Lord of the church, we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim;
fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduring,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.

Lord of the church, we seek a Father’s blessing,
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:
the living water for our souls’ reviving,
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.

Lord of the church, we long for our uniting,
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and his word!
So lead us on, till toil and trouble ended,
one church triumphant one new song shall sing
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1984, Oxford University Press

THE CONCLUSION

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Please be seated.

*Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.
Do please stay for a while.*

When I survey the wondrous cross

on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the tree;
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,

slain for us - and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace -
around the table of the King.

The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
torn for you - eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love -
around the table of the King.

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you - drink and remember
he drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace -
around the table of the King.

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
to respond - and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth.
As we share in His suffering
we proclaim Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven -
around the table of the King.

Keith & Kristyn Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2007, Thankyou Music